

CLAIMS

1. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus comprising an optical deflection apparatus including an optical deflector in which an oscillator 5 is supported by an elastic support member to be oscillatable about a support substrate, temperature control means for controlling a temperature of the optical deflector, at least one light source, and modulation means for modulating the light source, 10 wherein light from the light source is deflected by the optical deflector, and at least a part of the light is irradiated on an object to be irradiated to form an image, the method comprising:
controlling the temperature of the optical 15 deflector by the temperature control means based on a modulation signal from the modulation means so as to stabilize a resonance frequency of the optical deflector.
2. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the 20 temperature control means is the light source which emits light other than drawing light for forming the image to the optical deflector so as to stabilize the resonance frequency of the optical deflector.
- 25 3. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a total amount of the light emitted from the light source to

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

the optical deflector within an arbitrary unit time is controlled such that the total amount becomes close to a predetermined amount.

4. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the unit time comprises a drawing time for forming the image and a non-drawing time for forming no image, and wherein an amount of light emitted from the light source to the optical deflector within the non-drawing time is controlled based on an amount of light emitted to the optical deflector within the drawing time to control a total amount of the light emitted from the light source to the optical deflector within the unit time so as to becomes close to a predetermined amount.
- 15 5. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the unit time is an integral multiple of a 1/4 oscillating period of the oscillator in the optical deflector.
- 20 6. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light source is a single light source.
7. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light source is a light source having a plurality of different wavelengths, and wherein a filter for preventing light other than drawing light from the light source from reaching the object to be

irradiated is provided.

8. A method of controlling an image-forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the temperature control means comprises a heating element
5 mounted on a part of the optical deflector, and wherein the temperature of the optical deflector is controlled by the heating element so as to stabilize the resonance frequency of the optical deflector.